

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 2503

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORC, SUM, UY, BR, AR
SUBJ: VISIT OF UNSYG TO ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND URUGUAY

REF: (A) USUN 02986 (B) MONTEVIDEO 2313 (NOTAL)

1. IN RESPONSE TO PARA SEVEN REF (A) REQUESTING INFORMATION/
VIEWS FOR BENEFIT OF SYG IN PREPARING FOR VISIT HERE,
EMBASSY SUGGESTS FOLLOWING EXPANSION OF TALKING POINTS TEN-
TATIVELY SUGGESTED REF (B) (NOTEL) FOR WALDHEIM'S USE IN
MEETINGS WITH GOU OFFICIALS.

2. BEGIN TALKING POINTS. REMARKS ALREADY ATTRIBUTED TO
SYG IN LOCAL PRESS TO THE EFFECT THAT HE PARTICULARLY
WELCOMES INVITATION SINCE URUGUAY HAS ALWAYS BEEN STRONG
SUPPORTER OF AND PARTICIPANT IN UN SYSTEM COULD SERVE AS
OPENING FOR APPRECIATORY COMMENT ON STRONG AND INNOVATIVE
ROLE HISTORICALLY PLAYED BY URUGUAY IN FUTHERANCE OF
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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. (THIS DATES BACK TO AND BEFORE
POST-WORLD WAR 1 DISARMAMENT CONFERENCES.) URUGUAY'S COMMENDABLE
INTERNATIONAL POSTURE OF COURSE REFLECTS THE DEMOCRATIC
POLITICAL AND SOCIAL TRADITION WHICH HAD MADE IT ONE OF THE
WORLD'S MOST ADMIRER SMALLER COUNTRIES. THIS ADMIRATION IS THE
BASIS OF INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN URUGUAY AND UNDERLIES
INTERNATIONAL CONCERN REGARDING ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIO-

LATIONS IN URUGUAY.

3. IN THIS REGARD, WE ARE PLEASED BY URUGUAY'S COOPERATION WITH THE UNHRC, ACCEPTING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO RESPOND TO LEGITIMATE CONCERNS EXPRESSED IN AN INTERNATIONAL FORUM. NO LESS IMPORTANT HAS BEEN URUGUAY'S REACTION, WITHIN THE OAS, TO THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (IAHRC). WE WERE GRATIFIED TO NOTE THE NEW ATTITUDE OF COOPERATION WITH THIS BODY INDICATED BY URUGUAYAN DELEGATES AT THE RECENT OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. WE HOPE THE GOU WILL FOLLOW THROU BY INVITING THE IAHRC TO VISIT URUGUAY TO OBSERVE AND VERIFY ITS PROGRESS IN NORMALIZING CONDITIONS. THIS WOULD BE AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT DEMONSTRATION OF URUGUAY'S READINESS TO RESUME THE POSITION OF INTERNATIONAL MORAL LEADERSHIP FOR WHICH IT HAS BEEN SO RESPECTED IN THE PAST. THIS MOVEMENT WOULD BE ACCELERATED BY URUGUAYAN RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY OF SAN JOSE (ESTABLISHING THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS TRIBUNAL).

4. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF THE MISSION OF DISTINGUISHED LAWYERS, LED BY DR. WILLIAM BUTLER OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION, WHICH VISITED URUGUAY IN APRIL. WE WERE IMPRESSED BY HIS RECOMMENDATIONS (PUBLISHED IN URUGUAY) ON PROBLEMS SUFFERED BY THE URUGUAYAN LEGAL SYSTEM AS A RESULT OF THE MERGENCY THROUGH WHICH THE COUNTRY HAS PASSED. WE WOULD URGE THE GOU, AS SUGGESTED BY DR. BUTLER, TO TAKE CONFIDENTIAL

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ALL NECESSARY STEPS: TO GUARANTEE THE PHYSICAL PROTECTION OF ARRESTED PERSONS; TO RESTORE HABEAS CORPUS AND OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES; AND TO RESTORE THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIAL POWER. END TALKING POINTS.

5. REGARDING THE POINTS LISTED IN PARA FOUR, SYG OR BUFFUM MAY WISH TO INVITE BUTLER, CITING AS APPROPRIATE EMBASSY'S SUGGESTION, TO BRIEF HIM ON URUGUAYAN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION AND GOU PERSONALITIES VMMVMHE INTERVIEWED WHILE HERE. BUTLER, A NEW YORK ATTORNEY, IS WELL INFORMED AS WELL AS HIGHLY RESPONSIBLE AND ARTICULATE. PROMINENT IN THE ABA, HE IS ALSO RENOWNED INTERNATIONALLY, IS PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ABA COMMISSION ON TREATMENT OF LAWYERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES. BUTLER CAN BE CONTACTED THROUGH HIS OFFICE AT 408 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK; TEL: 755-2040.

6. EMBASSY ALSO SUGGESTS THAT DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN SYG WALDHEIM AND APPROPRIATE HIGH LEVEL USG OFFICIALS SUCH AS DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER, AMBASSADOR YOUNG, OR ASSISTANT SECRETARY VAKY, PRIOR TO SYG TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA.

PURPOSE OF MEETING WOULD BE TO HIGHLIGHT FOR SYG MAJOR
USG CONCERNS IN AREA, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON HUMAN
RIGHTS, AND TO UNDERScore AT HIGH LEVEL KEY POINTS WE WISH
TO MAKE.
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